

ADVANCING THE MORMON FRONTIER

The Life And Times

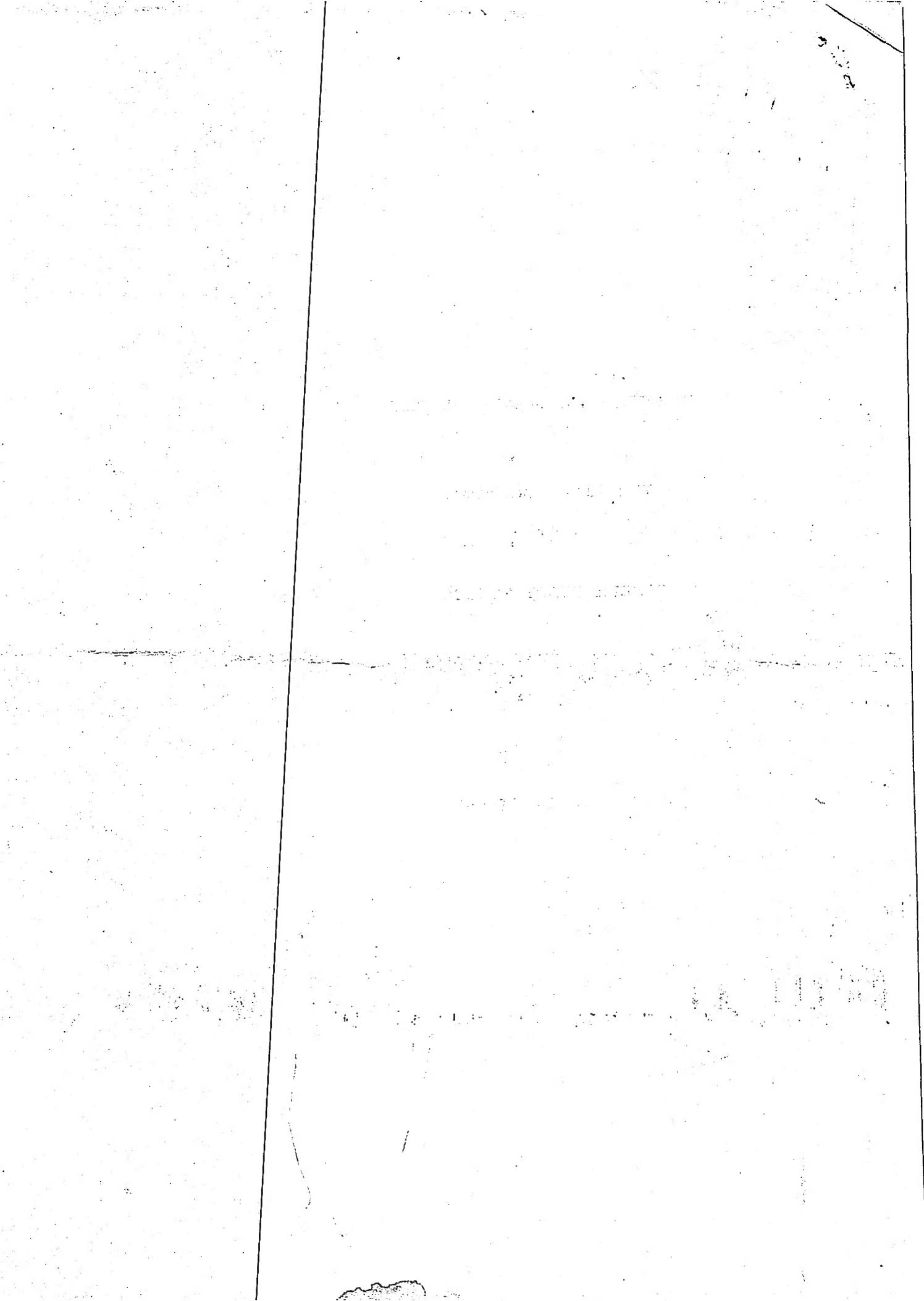
of

JOSEPH STACY MURDOCK

Pioneer, Colonizer, Peacemaker

By

George A. Thompson



places for his entire family, the entire plot then valued at \$5! Joseph and all of his wives, except Eunice who is buried at American Fork, and many of his children are now buried there. At the request of Bishop Abraham Hatch, Dave built the first fence around the cemetery during the early 1870's. All of the graves there have markers bearing the usual name and pertinent dates, all except one, for a small red sandstone monument has only the letters T T on it. The story of how that small stone came to be there is one of faith and friendship between Joseph Murdock and his Lamanite brothers.

One day a strangely silent line of Indian riders came down out of the mountains and made their way to Joseph's home. Except for a low wailing among the women there was hardly a sound from them. As the riders approached, Joseph recognized Chief Tabby in the lead, and ¹⁰
brought to Joseph Stacy Murdock ⁵⁹
in his arms was the body of a young boy. ⁶ After a subdued greeting ⁵⁹
 Chief Tabby told Joseph that the body was that of his son, who had ⁵⁶
been killed in an accident while hunting. ⁵⁶ The Chief knew that Joseph ⁵⁶
was the religious leader among his people, so he asked that Joseph ⁵⁴
bury his son in the custom of the Mormons. ⁵⁶ With a feeling of great ⁵³
 sorrow for his friend, Joseph conducted a Christian funeral service ⁵³
 and had Tom Tabby buried under a beautiful pine which had been planted ⁵⁶
 several years before by John H. Murdock. ³³

^{said}
 When the final prayer was complete, Chief Tabby said, "My son
 has been buried in the white man's custom, now he will be honored in
 the Indian fashion." A rick of cedar logs was then laid up on the
 new grave and the boy's favorite pony was led up to it, where its
 throat was cut and the animal laid on the logs which were set afire. ⁵² ⁵⁷ ⁵⁴

